WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. An extract of *Scutellaria lateriflora* L. having a content of flavonoids, calculated as the sum of baicalin, scutellarin, dihydrobaicalin, ikonnikoside I, lateriflorin, baicalein, lateriflorein and wogonin, of at least 18% by weight.
- 2. The extract of claim 1 having a content of baicalin of at least 8-9% by weight.
- 3. A process for obtaining an extract of *Scutellaria lateriflora* L. rich in flavonoids, said process comprising:

combining dried *Scutellaria lateriflora* L. plant material with a solvent to form a solution; and

separating solid material from said solution after a predetermined period, whereby said extract has a content of flavonoids, calculated as the sum of baicalin, scutellarin, dihydrobaicalin, ikonnikoside I, lateriflorin, baicalein, lateriflorein and wogonin, of at least 18% by weight.

- 4. The process of claim 3 wherein said solvent is boiling water.
 - 5. The process of claim 3 wherein said solvent is alcohol.
- 6. The process of claim 3 further comprising stirring solution for a predetermined period.
- 7. The process of claim 3 further comprising drying said extract.
- 8. A composition comprising extract of *Scutellaria lateriflora* L. combined with a stabilizing agent.
- 9. The composition of claim 8 wherein said stabilizing agent is ascorbic acid.

- 10. The composition of claim 8 wherein said stabilizing agent is citric acid.
- 11. The composition of claim 8 wherein said stabilizing agent is a combination of citric acid and ascorbic acid.
- 12. A process for obtaining an extract of *Scutellaria lateriflora* L., said process comprising:

combining dried *Scutellaria lateriflora* L. plant material with a solvent to form a solution;

adding a stabilizing agent to said solution; and

separating solid material from said solution after a predetermined period.

- 13. The process of claim 12 wherein said stabilizing agent is ascorbic acid.
- 14. The process of claim 12 wherein said stabilizing agent is citric acid.
- 15. The process of claim 12 wherein said stabilizing agent is a combination of citric acid and ascorbic acid.
- 16. The process of claim 12 further comprising heating said solution and then cooling said solution prior to adding said stabilizing agent.
- 17. The process of claim 12 wherein said solvent is boiling water.
- 18. The process of claim 12 wherein said solvent is a glycerin aqueous solution.
 - 19. The process of claim 12 wherein said solvent is alcohol.